

**ADVICE TO ACTING MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL****Article 9.4 Request from the Commission  
Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA)****PURPOSE**

This briefing note is to inform the Acting Minister of a request from the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Division requesting the deployment of RCMP Alberta Provincial Police Service (PPS) members pursuant to Articles 9.4 of the Provincial Police Services Agreement (PPSA).

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Minister confirm support for the deployment of a small number of Alberta RCMP PPSA resources to support the emergency situation in Ottawa, Ontario.

**BACKGROUND**

- Article 9 of the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) provides a mechanism for temporarily accessing extra RCMP resources to assist with police duties during an emergency or an event.
  - It also outlines which level of government is financially responsible for the costs of policing major events, special events, and different types of emergencies.
  - Under the PPSA, an emergency is categorized as either provincial, territorial or federal. Typically, the level of government responsible for the policing activity to be delivered determines whether the emergency is provincial, territorial or federal.
- A key component of an emergency is that the jurisdictional police do not have sufficient resources to deal with the situation and extra RCMP resources could be brought in from other business lines or regions.
- The current protests and occupation of the City of Ottawa is seeing the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) being insufficiently resourced to address the situation.
- The Province of Ontario has declared a state of emergency in relation to the ongoing protest activities.
- The Government of Canada has enacted the Federal Emergency Act in relation to the ongoing protest and blockade activities in Ottawa and around the country.
- The RCMP has been requested to provide assistance to the City of Ottawa and the Ottawa Police Service.
- Pursuant to Article 9.4 of the PPSA, the Commissioner of the RCMP has asked that a portion of the Alberta RCMP resources, specific to specialized resources capable of addressing large scale public order events, be deployed to assist the situation which is considered to be a Federal Emergency.
- The RCMP here in Alberta have been asked to provide 42 officers, comprised of 32 from the Special Tactics and Operations (STO or public order) team, seven

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Emergency Response Team members, two Police Service Dog handlers and one Incident Commander.

- Of those 42, half will come from the Provincial Policing line, half from Municipal or Federal business lines, as they are selecting individuals trained in those profiles.
- This will then entail providing 21 PPSA resources of a specialized capacity to support Ontario.
- The Calgary Police Service has been approached by the OPS to supply tactical troops and has committed to sending 25 officers.
- The Edmonton Police Service has been approached by the OPS to supply tactical troops and has committed to sending 20 officers.
- The Article 9.4 of the PPSA states:
  - *If, in the opinion of the Commissioner, there is a need to use part of the Provincial/Territorial Police Service with respect to an Emergency in an area of federal responsibility that exists or is likely to exist anywhere in Canada:*
  - *the Commissioner may, after consultation with the Provincial/Territorial Minister, temporarily withdraw up to 10 per cent of the Members of the Provincial/Territorial Police Service (including any necessary Equipment) to perform any duties or functions to deal with such Emergency;*
  - *if the Emergency exists outside the Province/Territory, the Province/Territory will not bear the Salary and incremental costs of the Members and Equipment withdrawn.*
- The Companion Document to the PPSA further expands and indicates:
  - *If the Emergency exists outside the province or territory, the PT will not bear the costs directly related to the withdrawal of PT Members and any necessary Equipment regardless of the length of the Emergency. However, they are responsible for the costs of backfilling their Members while they are redeployed, should they choose to do so.*
  - *Depending on the urgency of the situation, these steps may initially be performed verbally or by e-mail, followed later by formal correspondence. Initial operational response communications may occur between PT ADMs and RCMP CROPs to respond to the situation in a timely manner. PT Minister, Federal Minister, RCMP Commissioner/CO written correspondences may follow initial operational responses as situations dictate.*
- In this case all costs for the salary, transportation, expenses, etc., will be borne by the RCMP National Headquarters, and not the Province of Alberta.
- Article 9.4 requires consultation with the Minister, which would provide the Minister with an opportunity to explore any operational or public safety concerns they might have with the deployment, for the Province of Alberta.
- The Commanding Officer of the Alberta RCMP, Deputy Commissioner Zablocki has indicated in relation to the situation in Coutts, all lanes remain open, no vehicles are left on the highway.

- Further there will be 50 officers (combination Sheriffs and RCMP) on duty both day and night during the weekend along with a rapid response team to keep things lawful.
- Currently, at CP10 there are 65 people, with 15 RV's and approx. 35 passenger vehicles located at the lawful protest site and that number has been steadily diminishing.
- The Deputy Commissioner is comfortable with releasing these resources to assist the Ottawa Police Service and RCMP National response there, indicating he has sufficient resources left in province to address our policing and public safety needs.
- The Commanding Officer also advises that the additional resources from BC which Alberta called up pursuant to Article 9.2 earlier in the Coutts blockade to bolster the PPSA are no longer in province as they were brought in for relief but no longer required and actually released by end of the weekend back to BC.

**CONTACT:** Marlin Degrand, Executive Director, Law Enforcement and Oversight Branch, Public Security Division, 780-427-7952

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Honourable Sonya Savage  
Acting Minister of Justice and Solicitor General